



PATENT  
Docket No. 300-023

11/Pre. Amdt.  
B  
Shupen  
4-6-00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Michael Shotey et. al. ) Group Art Unit: 2831  
Entitled: RECEPTICAL-MOUNTED )  
COVER PLATE ) Examiner: D. Reichard  
Filed: July 30, 1997 )  
Serial No.: 08/902,849 )

BOX CPA  
Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

In response to the Office Action of September 30, 1999, the period for response having been extended three months to March 30, 2000 by the attached Petition and fee, and in view of the continuing prosecution application filed concurrently herewith on March 30, 2000, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 2, 12-21, 23, and 35 without prejudice and amend  
independent claims 1, 22 and 34 as follows:

B<sup>1</sup>  
1. (Amended) A cover plate for covering an electrical outlet, the electrical outlet including a receptacle having at least one socket and at least one securing aperture for receiving a securing device, each of the at least one socket including a face